

From: Shlomi Harif
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/31/01 1:34pm
Subject: Comment on the proposed Microsoft anti-trust settlement

To Whom It May Concern and Attorney General, State of Connecticut:

Pursuant to the Tunney Act of 1974 I am commenting on the proposed settlement between the government and Microsoft. I feel I am particularly capable of providing professional input, as the father of three children in school, and the Chief Technology Officer for a finance-related software firm, Austin Logistics, here in Austin, Texas.

I would love to be able to say where my traffic fines are spent: my sidewalk could use a little fixing up. Oh, and I'm real particular as to the kind of cement, and who does it. Did I mention that I'm in the concrete business? I'll Just make the check out to myself, and I'll take care of the whole thing, okay?

I'm not sure if the cynicism was obvious enough, but punishments should never enhance the crime for which a defendant is being punished. Giving Microsoft additional revenue and a tightened lock-hold on the educational system is monopolistic in and of itself.

This action, if executed, will set a precedent for any future anti-trust cases, and impinges on the ability of the public, through the offices of the government, to get pure legal redress for actions impacting citizens.

An independent, court-appointed monitor should disburse the funds in a manner that benefits the schools, not the criminal.

Sincerely,

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